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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE FEB 17 2000

Applicants: K. Dong et al.

Attorney Docket No. OMVT12308

Group 2700

Application No.: 09/399,510

Group Art Unit: 2819

Filed: September 20, 1999

Examiner: --

Title: AUTO BLACK EXPANSION METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AN IMAGE SENSOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

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January 3, 2000

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TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. X Copies of the listed patents, publications, and other information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. _____ Copies of the listed patents, publications, and other information were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior Application No. _____, filed _____, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.
3. _____ A concise explanation of the relevance of document I.D. No. _____ (which is not in the English language), as presently understood by the individual designated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about its content, is provided _____.
4. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the national application, within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
5. _____ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this information disclosure statement is being filed after the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a

final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, and is accompanied by:

6. a. _____ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) this information disclosure statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before or simultaneous with payment of the issue fee. The statement is accompanied by a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement is set forth below, and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)(1). Check No. _____ in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed.
- b. _____ Applicant hereby petitions for consideration of this information disclosure statement.
7. X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 3, 2000.

Date: January 3, 2000

Abbi G. Lewis

GSF:lal